

Senate Resolution 103

By: Senator Pearson of the 51st

A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing congratulations and best wishes to Dr. Joseph A. Lazzarini on the occasion of his
2 83rd birthday; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Joseph A. Lazzarini, beloved husband, father, and grandfather and esteemed
4 citizen of the State of Georgia, celebrated his 83rd birthday this past December; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Lazzarini was born December 27, 1925, one of seven children, in Sabana
6 Grande, Puerto Rico, a small town located on the southwest side of the island; and

7 WHEREAS, while Dr. Lazzarini attended school in Puerto Rico, he worked as a machinist
8 in a sugar cane mill, contributing his entire paycheck to his father to help with household
9 expenses; and

10 WHEREAS, at the age of 19, Dr. Lazzarini volunteered for service in the United States Army
11 during World War II, with his first military assignment in Cuba; and

12 WHEREAS, during his tenure with the Army, Dr. Lazzarini continued to send money home
13 to his father to aid in the raising of his siblings, completing his service with the Army as a
14 Corporal; and

15 WHEREAS, upon completion of his service, Dr. Lazzarini attended the University of
16 Scranton in Pennsylvania, focusing his education on pre-medical courses before returning
17 to serve as a guardian of the nation's freedom in the Naval Reserve, the Merchant Marines,
18 and the Military Sea Transport Service; and

19 WHEREAS, after proudly serving in the naval arena, Dr. Lazzarini took to the skies with the
20 United States Air Force, earning the rank of Airman First Class while he was stationed in
21 Spain; and

22 WHEREAS, while in Spain, Dr. Lazzarini graduated from the University of Madrid's School
23 of Medicine and was united in love and marriage to Liberty Lopez de Ochoa, the daughter
24 of a famous Spanish general, and the couple was blessed with two loving children, Beatrice
25 Angela and Edward Michael; and

26 WHEREAS, Dr. Lazzarini rejoined the United States Army as a military doctor after
27 completing his residency in Puerto Rico and was assigned Commander of the Medical
28 Dispensary in Barconne, France; and in 1965, Dr. Lazzarini returned to the United States and
29 was stationed in Fort Dix, New Jersey, serving as a Major in the Army Hospital; and

30 WHEREAS, Dr. Lazzarini took a break from his military service to train and complete his
31 residency in radiology in 1972 at the VA Hospital in the Bronx, New York; and even after
32 establishing a successful career in private practice as founder and Chief of Radiology of the
33 Radiology Center of Aquadilla in Puerto Rico, Dr. Lazzarini returned to serve his country
34 in the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel and Chief of Radiology at Fort Gordon, Georgia; and

35 WHEREAS, in 1984, Dr. Lazzarini was promoted to the rank of Colonel and went on to
36 serve as Chief of Radiology at Fort Stewart, Georgia; Landshstul, Germany; Vicenza, Italy;
37 and Fort Hood, Texas, before his retirement; and

38 WHEREAS, this distinguished Georgian was appropriately honored throughout his military
39 career with such distinctions as the Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster,
40 the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Outstanding Civilian Service Medal, the Good
41 Conduct Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the World War II Occupation Medal, the
42 National Defense Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Armed Forces Reserve
43 Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Overseas Service Medal; and

44 WHEREAS, after an incredible career in the military, Dr. Lazzarini continued his calling of
45 selfless service to the public, founding and providing free medical services at Caring Hands
46 Health Clinic in downtown Atlanta to those in need without medical insurance; and

47 WHEREAS, an active member of the Knights of Columbus, Dr. Lazzarini has also dedicated
48 his time to the Radiology Society of America, the American College of Radiology, the
49 American Institute of Ultrasound, the Disabled American Veterans National Service
50 Foundation, and the Military Officers Association of America's Georgia Mountain Chapter;
51 and

52 WHEREAS, Dr. Lazzarini embodies the spirit of service, willing to find meaning in
53 something greater than himself and dedicating his life to others, and it is abundantly fitting
54 and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this remarkable and distinguished
55 American be recognized appropriately.

56 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
57 commend Dr. Joseph A. Lazzarini's efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated public
58 service to the citizens of his country; express to him their utmost appreciation for his
59 sacrifice and devotion for 20 years in the military and ten years as a federal employee; and
60 extend to him their most sincere congratulations for the celebration of his 83rd birthday on
61 December 27, 2008.

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
63 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Dr. Lazzarini.